

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 05342 192042Z

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 CPR-02 DRC-01 /132 W

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P 191700Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8704

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 5342

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, BE

SUBJECT: DEATH OF FORMER PRIME MINISTER LEFEVRE

1. FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF BELGIUM, MINISTER OF STATE THEO LEFEVRE, AGE 59, DIED SEPTEMBER 18 AT BRUSSELS. AFTER THE WAR, AS MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIAL CHRISTIAN PARTY AND PRIME MINISTER (1961-1965 IN WHAT WAS KNOWN AS THE LEFEVRE/SPAARK GOVERNMENT), LEFEVRE PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE ORIENTATION OF BELGIAN EXTERNAL POLICY TOWARD ALLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES AND INTEGRATION IN EUROPE. FROM 1965 UNTIL JANUARY 1971 HE WAS MINISTER FOR SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS IN SUCCESSIVE GOVERNMENTS.

2. IN BELGIUM, LEFEVRE WAS UNIVERSALLY RESPECTED AND HAD THE REPUTATION OF BEING THE UNITED STATES' GREATEST FRIEND AND ADMIRER. HE WORKED INDEFATIGABLY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

3. APPROPRIATE EXPRESSIONS OF CONDOLENCES FOR HIS WIDOW FROM THE PRESIDENT AND FROM THE ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE WOULD BE MOST APPROPRIATE.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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